

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Nobutaka YAMABE et al.

Serial No.: 09/718,388

Filed: November 24, 2000

For: A METHOD FOR CULTURING CELL AND A CULTURE VESSEL



Group Art Unit 836

Examiner: K. Katcheres

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: August 28, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 23, Page 1 and continuing to Page 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Q31 Conventionally, two methods have widely been employed for culturing epithelial cell, particularly epidermal cell (or which is called epidermal keratinocyte). One utilizes sterilized 3T3 mouse embryo fibroblast, i.e., viable 3T3 mouse lung embryo fibroblast from which division and proliferation potencies have been deleted by irradiating, for example, γ ray or by adding an agent such as mitomycin C, as feeder layer (such as the feeder layer culture method described in James G. Rheinwald and Howard Green. Cell 6: 331-344. Serial Cultivation of Strains of Human Epidermal